

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 3

2 48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2008

3 INTRODUCED BY

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8 FOR THE LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE

9
10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE
12 DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION, THE PUBLIC EDUCATION
13 DEPARTMENT AND THE HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO DEVELOP A
14 PLAN TO ENHANCE THE RECRUITMENT, PREPARATION, MENTORING,
15 EVALUATION, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT FOR SCHOOL
16 PRINCIPALS AND OTHER SCHOOL LEADERS.

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18 WHEREAS, the 2003 school reform legislation placed more
19 responsibility for personnel and instruction upon principals
20 and superintendents; and

21 WHEREAS, more recent legislation in 2007 increased the
22 minimum salaries of school principals and assistant principals
23 according to a responsibility factor; and

24 WHEREAS, research shows that the influence of effective
25 school leadership is second only to classroom instruction among

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1 school-related factors affecting student learning; and

2 WHEREAS, recruitment, preparation, mentoring, evaluation,
3 professional development and support are as important for
4 school leaders as they are for teachers, and New Mexico does
5 not have a statewide, coordinated approach for the recruitment
6 and retention of school leaders or their professional
7 development; and

8 WHEREAS, a joint study during the 2007 interim by the
9 legislative education study committee, the legislative finance
10 committee and the office of education accountability of the
11 department of finance and administration identified a number of
12 challenges for school leadership and recommended the creation
13 of a systematic plan for the recruitment, preparation,
14 mentoring, evaluation, professional development and support for
15 school principals and other school leaders; and

16 WHEREAS, this joint study found that one-half of New
17 Mexico schools have had three or more principals in the last
18 ten years and thirty-five percent of districts have had three
19 or more superintendents in the last four years; and

20 WHEREAS, this study also found that, according to the
21 education commission of the states, New Mexico requires more
22 years of teaching experience to obtain an administrator's
23 license than other states;

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
25 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the office of education accountability

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1 of the department of finance and administration, the public
2 education department and the higher education department be
3 requested to collaborate with school districts and institutions
4 of higher education to develop a plan to enhance the
5 recruitment, preparation, mentoring, evaluation, professional
6 development and support for school principals and other school
7 leaders in order to ensure an adequate supply of effective
8 school leaders; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the plan include such
10 components as a review of successful strategies used in other
11 states for the identification and recruitment of individuals
12 with leadership potential; an examination of whether existing
13 requirements for school administrator licenses limit the pool
14 of potential school leaders; and the development of ongoing
15 procedures to monitor, coordinate and strengthen professional
16 development for school leaders, with a focus on professional
17 development for principals of schools in need of improvement;
18 and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the office of education
20 accountability of the department of finance and administration,
21 the public education department and the higher education
22 department report their findings and recommendations to the
23 legislative education study committee by November 1, 2008; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, before the plan is
25 implemented, it be reviewed by the legislative education study

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1 committee; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
3 transmitted to the secretary of public education, the secretary
4 of higher education, the secretary of finance and
5 administration and the director of the legislative education
6 study committee.

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